

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A bullsnap fastener comprising:

a rigid elongate member having a mid-section,

a hook having a shank and a curved distal end, said hook extending from a first end of said mid-section so as to define a hook space between said shank and said distal end, and an opening between said distal end of said hook and said first end of said mid-section, an eye extending from a second end of said mid-section generally opposite said first end,

a rigid gate member pivotally mounted to said mid-section and lying substantially in a plane containing said hook so as to be pivotable between a closed position, wherein an end surface of said gate blocks said opening and closes off said hook space, said end surface extending from said opening to said shank of said hook, and an open position wherein said gate has been pivoted outwardly of said opening, away from said hook, so as to unblock said opening allowing access to said hook space,

resilient biasing means mounted in said mid-section for resiliently biasing said gate from said open position into said closed position,

at least one grip-enhancing member protruding outwardly of said gate.

2. The fastener of claim 1 wherein said grip-enhancing member is a rigid lever extending in said plane outwardly from said gate, oppositely disposed relative to said end surface of said gate, so as to extend cantilevered outwardly of said gate and said distal end of said hook when said gate is in said closed position.

3. The fastener of claim 2 wherein said lever is nose-shaped.

4. The fastener of claim 3 further comprising grip-enhancing striations formed on an outer surface of said lever.

5. The fastener of claim 1 wherein said grip-enhancing member is a member extending from said gate generally orthogonally outwardly of said plane.

6. The fastener of claim 5 wherein said member is a rigid pin extending through said gate so as to protrude opposite ends of said pin equally from opposite sides of said gate.

5 7. The fastener of claim 5 wherein said member includes at least one wing-shaped protrusion extending from sides of said gates.

8. The fastener of claim 7 wherein said at least one wing-shaped protrusion is a pair of wing-shaped protrusions mounted in oppositely disposed array on opposite sides of
10 said gate.